



AmeriCorps Member
NJ Watershed Ambassador:

Position Summary:

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection seeks 20 Watershed Ambassadors to promote watershed stewardship in each of New Jersey's 20 watershed management areas (WMA) through education, partnership projects and stream assessments. Selected members will serve full-time (35-40 hours per week) from mid-September through mid-July, to complete the required 1700 hours of service. A living stipend of \$12,530 will be distributed on a bi-weekly basis in the amount of approximately \$500. Certain expenses may be covered "out of pocket," then reimbursed. (Ex. mileage compensation is 0.31 cents/mile, but does not include commute to/from the Host Agency.) Upon program completion, Ambassadors are eligible to receive a \$ 5,730.00 Education Award (taxable) for educational purposes and during the program; Ambassadors are eligible to apply for Deferment/Forbearance on qualified (public) loans and any interest accrued is paid for by the National Service Trust. Ambassadors are offered a limited Health Benefit Insurance Plan, including dental and child care benefits.

Duties and Responsibilities:

Members will be responsible for working closely with community members to promote watershed stewardship

- ✓ **Field work-** Conduct 35 visual & biological stream assessments and/or lake assessments;
- ✓ **Watershed Presentations-** Conducts 50 presentations to educate school students and other community groups about land use and non-point sources of pollution using a watershed model ("EnviroScape") and other teacher training tools;
- ✓ **Partnership Events-** Plan and execute 3-5 projects with non-profit organizations, municipal government, schools etc. that will help improve water quality (such as stream cleanups, tree plantings and rain barrel workshops) and recruit and train volunteers to participate;
- ✓ **Training Workshops-** Plan and conduct 3 stream assessment workshops for the public;
- ✓ **Citizenship Training-** Attend 3 local meetings to learn about specific issues in assigned WMA and to offer assistance during term of service. Interview One local official;
- ✓ **Skills Training-** Mandatory attendance at a variety of training sessions throughout the term of service.
- ✓ **Career Training-** Interview/shadow a professional in field of interest.

Requirements:

Applicants must be a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident of the U.S., have a Bachelor's Degree, a valid driver's license and reliable transportation for field work. Candidates must be motivated by a genuine interest in the environmental field and a strong desire to serve.

Orientation:

Ambassadors are required to attend 8 days of intensive (9 am – 9 pm) training at the beginning of the Program to prepare for their term of service (food/ lodging provided).

- 4 days at **Stokes State Forest- Sept. 8-11**
- 4 days at **Parvin State Park- Sept 21-24**